

SPiRiT OF THE PRESS.

EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS—COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

The Civil Tenure-of-Office Bill.

From the N. Y. Tribune. The Civil Tenure-of-Office bill accomplishes one reform. It is that the tenure of public office shall be measured by the efficiency of the officer. It prevents a President like Mr. Johnson from dismissing men who have spent years in the service of the Government, merely to gratify a political passion. But while the power of removal is so strictly guarded, it seems that there should also be qualifications as to the power of appointment. The high officers of the Government should depend simply upon the expression of Executive pleasure. The President must select his advisers and principal assistants in all departments from his own knowledge of their character, and not from any written qualifications. But in all the departments of the Government there should be as much care taken in making appointments as there is in the army and the navy. With very few exceptions, we take our military and naval officers from schools where they are carefully educated at the Government expense; and during the war we found our account in it. It requires ability and experience to faithfully perform the services required in other departments of the Government, and we trust to see a bill passed which will enable the President to select for foreign representatives, clerks in Departments, postmasters, and a multitude of appointments where skill and education are required, men who have been properly trained, and whose only claim will be their merit. Any measure which will secure this principle, namely, personal efficiency as the test of appointment, will be wise legislation.

Election Frauds.

From the N. Y. Tribune. Have the Committees engaged in investigating frauds in the recent election obtained any clue to the mysterious partnership established between Tweed, Sweeney, and Barnard, Sachems of Tammany Hall, on the one hand, and Jay Gould, Tweed, and Sweeney, controlling Directors of the Erie Railroad, on the other? Is it true that the Erie Company, through the influence of Directors Sweeney and Tweed, "located" fourteen thousand "voters" armed with Judge Barnard's naturalization papers along the line of the Erie road, to carry New York for Hoffman, while by the same agency four thousand votes were added to the Democratic strength in New Jersey? And if this be true, does it form any reason why Judge Barnard issues injunctions restraining certain Erie stockholders from suing or applying to any Courts or Judges for redress against alleged fraudulent over-issues of Erie stock by Jay Gould, Tweed, Sweeney & Co.? And if these facts have an umbilical connection, is there any assignable limit to the amount of new stock which Jay Gould may issue, the extent to which he may impoverish all stockholders not in his "ring," or the profits which he may divide between himself and his confederates? And if there is no limit to the fortune he can thus amass, is it to be supposed that he does not share his property with those whose judicial aid renders him so prosperous? And if not, which party best to be Sachem in Tammany Hall, a preferred suitor in Judge Barnard's Court, or to issue injunctions in Erie?

Appointments to Office.

From the N. Y. Times. We do not propose to advise General Grant how to make appointments to the forty thousand offices he will be expected to fill as soon as he becomes President, partly because he has not asked our advice, from which we infer that he does not want it, and partly because we do not suppose he would take it even if we should thrust it upon him. But we venture to submit to our readers a few suggestions on the subject, so that they may not be taken by surprise if they should find them substantially acted on when the administration passes into General Grant's hands. I. All the offices of the country are filled now. Where they prove to be well filled—where the new President finds that the incumbents are honest, faithful, and efficient officers, and not offensively obnoxious as politicians—it strikes us that it would be wise to let them alone. The country will thus have the benefit of the experience they have acquired in the discharge of their duties, and the Treasury will be saved from the new swarm of hungry office-seekers who are awaiting their turn. II. The President will find himself surrounded by an army of persons who will claim the right of telling him whom he may appoint and whom he must not. At the head of the host will be the members of Congress, who will begin by demanding, as their right, this control of his appointments. It would be wise, we think, for the new President to begin by denying the right in toto, and by refusing, in the most positive manner, the surrender of the appointing power into other hands. This claim of Congressmen to dictate the President's appointments, each for his own district, is comparatively modern; but it has come to be very peremptory and absolute. No one thing, probably, decided so many votes in the House in favor of impeachment as President Johnson's refusal to permit members to make his appointments for him. That is the way in which every member expects to pay off his obligations to those who were most active, devoted, and effective in securing his election. The Presidential patronage is assumed to be the common stock on which the members of Congress are to draw for the payment of their political debts; their checks on that bank are the "legal tenders" of the country. It strikes us it would be well for the new President to dispel that delusion, and to give Congress and the country to understand that the offices of the country are parts of the machinery by which the executive fulfills his oath to enforce the laws and carry on the Government. His duty and his interest alike require that none but good men should be appointed to fill them. III. Congressmen may naturally be supposed to know more about the character and fitness of applicants and candidates for office in their respective districts than the President can; and he may, with great advantage, therefore, call upon them to tell him what they know about them. Upon the information which he may be able thus to gather from members of Congress and others he can, in the exercise of his own judgment, be able to make good appointments; but it should be his requisite that none but good men should be appointed to fill them.

Growth of Triumphant Rascality.

From the N. Y. World. The Erie Railroad war (the newest topic of living interest), the whisky ring (so long a standing topic), the corruption of State legislatures, the enormous bribery practised in elections, are some of the external symptoms of a prevalent moral rotteness, which, like ugly ulcers on different parts of a human body, demonstrate that it is full of foul disease. The indignant stream of invective with which the press assails each particular abuse, though richly deserved, is probably as futile as the muttering of an incantation would be to arrest the cholera in a city whose streets were reeking with filth. Great moral diseases can be cured only by the removal of their causes. Men are not naturally corrupt, but easily corruptible; and wise legislators do not willingly expose them to considerable temptations. A very high tariff, for example, as surely produces a crop of smugglers as warm summer rains promote the growth of weeds. A tax on whisky equal to eight times the cost of its manufacture is a temptation to fraud which average human nature will not withstand, and not many officers of the law will be honest and resolute enough to stem it under so gross an stimulus. A fluctuating currency will diffuse through a community a spirit of restless speculation, and impatience of the slow gains of regular trade and honest industry. Great corporations, having objects to accomplish that can be affected by legislation, will always find legislators to accept their bribes. The chief requisite for the correction of moral disorders is the removal of temptations. The present hideous corruption of public and pecuniary morals is an inheritance from the late war, and there is needed more skill and courage to cope with it than were required to end the war itself. The existence of a stupendous public debt and the consequent necessity for high taxation is one of the most fruitful sources of corruption. Unless the debt and finances are to be better managed than they have been thus far, it would be better for the public morals to repudiate the national debt, principal and interest, than to keep up a system which debauches the business community and the administrative service, and oppresses the people. It may be said that England has a vast debt, and nevertheless escapes the reeking corruption which has grown up here. But there is a great difference in the circumstances. The interest on the debt of England is only three per cent, and she makes no attempt to pay any part of the principal. The realized wealth of our country (our unsettled lands and unworked mines contribute no more to our resources than our cotton population) is far greater than ours. Moreover, her administrative system is more favorable to official integrity and efficiency, her revenue officers being appointed for their qualifications, never removed for political causes, and subjected to a more efficient supervision. 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Besides these evils, corporations which command vast amounts of capital possess great facilities for speculation, and the temptation is too strong for their managers to resist speculative ventures when great fortunes are made or lost by the fluctuations of values. We have no objection to their using against competitors all the means of their art, but we see, they are just as legitimate as ordinary trade. To buy as largely as possible of property whose value is expected to rise, and sell as speedily as possible property whose value is expected to fall, is just as natural and reasonable as to buy and sell ordinary goods with the expectation of an ordinary profit. The evil does not lie in the fact of speculation, but in the circumstances that render it possible. A short crop leads to speculation in grain; but it is the short crop, not the speculation, that constitutes the evil. The same is true of a war which creates in military supplies; but the evil is the war itself. 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array of names of "prominent and influential" citizens, are simply shams—not worth the paper they are written on, and entitled to the least possible influence. Nine men out of ten, to whom these papers are presented, sign them simply because it is easier to sign than to explain why they can't. There are many men who make it a rule to sign every paper of the kind they are asked to sign. We can name a dozen men, and Republicans in this city, whose names General Grant may rely on seeing upon every application for office that is made from this city, as well as upon very many made from other quarters. It is the most common thing in the world for men to "recommend" for responsible places persons of whom they know absolutely nothing whatever. This is one of the principal sources of the absolute degradation that has, of late years, befallen the public service; and the sooner it is broken up and utterly destroyed the better. The President can readily find men, in every district, upon whom he can call for information as to the qualifications of applicants, with a reasonable certainty of getting information that is disinterested and reliable.

V. We hope that General Grant will, so far as possible, restore the practice of the earlier and purer days of the Government, by leaving to each head of department, in the main, the duty and responsibility of selecting his own subordinates. He will thus escape one of the heaviest and most repulsive of the many burdens which the arrogance and selfishness of political partisanship have fastened on his office, and restore to the several departments, as well as reclaim for himself, something of the dignity and independence which justly belongs to them, and without which a proper performance of duty is impossible. We hope that the country may have the benefit of an organized Civil Service, on a system to be fixed by law, in which ability, integrity, and efficiency shall be recognized as the requisites for getting office, and as the only thing necessary to retain it. But the establishment of such a system will meet the resolute hostility of all the most corrupt elements of our politics, and will be long delayed even if it is ever achieved. But General Grant can, meantime, in organizing and getting into practical working the machinery of his administration, give the country the benefit of all the best features of such a civil service, and thus do more than can otherwise be done towards engraving it by law upon the Government and commending it to the cordial approval and support of the country. We hope he will do it.

New Scheme of the Treasury Ring.

From the N. Y. Herald. It is rumored in Washington that the Treasury ring are concocting another and a gigantic scheme to fill their pockets and plunder the public. It is nothing less than to give all the bondholders the opportunity of becoming national bankers. In other words, it is to extend the banking privilege and the profits of a national currency to all who choose to combine and deposit United States bonds with the Government and receive ninety per cent. of national bank notes for circulation, as the existing national banks do at present. This project throws all the swindling operations of the Erie Railroad Company and other companies in the shade, for it amounts to watering the entire national debt for the benefit of the bondholders. Such a scheme would seem incredible did we not know the unscrupulousness of the Treasury ring and grasping cupidity of most of the bondholders. The bondholders of the existing national banks draw six per cent. in gold in interest on their bonds, which is equal to more than eight per cent. in currency, and derive a profit of six or seven per cent. besides on their circulation, making about fifteen per cent. on their capital. This, too, is independent of other profits on their banking business. Of course the other bondholders would like to enjoy the same advantages, and may be preparing for a movement in combination with the Treasury ring to acquire them. It is well known that the national bank circulation and privileges are very unequally distributed throughout the country. New England has by far the largest share, and the West, with all its activity, vast business, and surprising growth, has not more than a third of the East in proportion to population. It is reasonable to suppose the West and South will soon demand an appropriate equalization of bank circulation and privileges, and it is not likely the East will be willing to give up a portion of them for that purpose. We need not be surprised, then, if a desperate effort be made to extend the national bank privileges and to inflate the currency in the interest of the Treasury ring and bondholders. The only way to avert such a scheme, to equalize the circulation, to break up this dangerous national bank monopoly, and to save about twenty-five millions a year to the Treasury, is for Congress to repeal the act creating the national banks, and to place the responsibility to issue legal tenders. There need be no limit to the number of banks in any part of the country using legal tenders only for their circulation, and no danger of there being too many, for the business wants of every locality would regulate that. The total amount of circulation could be regulated by Congress, so that there should be neither inflation nor contraction. Thus it would be equalized, uniform, and permeate every section according to the wants of trade.

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Y. P. M.

YOUNG'S PURE MALT WHISKY. YOUNG'S PURE MALT WHISKY. YOUNG'S PURE MALT WHISKY. There is no question relative to the merits of the celebrated Y. P. M. It is the most quality whisky manufactured from the best grain, brewed by Philadelphia distillers, and is sold at the low rate of 40 per gallon, or \$1.25 per quart, at the salerooms, No. 700 PASSYUNK ROAD, PHILADELPHIA.

THE GREAT RURAL CEMETERY.

MOUNT MORIAH, embracing an area of one hundred and fifty-five acres, and comprising every variety of scenery, is by far the largest and most beautiful of all the cemeteries near Philadelphia. As the tide of improvement trends northward, MOUNT MORIAH, by geographical position, is FOREVER SAFE FROM INTRUSION OR DISTURBANCE BY OPENING OF STREETS, and will never be hedged in and surrounded by houses, factories, or other improvements, the inevitable fate of other cemeteries northward or centrally situated. At a convenient distance from the city, readily accessible by an excellent road and by the streets cars of the Darby Passenger Railway, Mount Moriah, by its unobstructed view, fills the solemn purpose of its dedication as a last resting place of the dead. No funeral service here is ever interrupted by the shrill whistle of the locomotive, nor the assembling of friends or visitors shocked by the rattle and rattle of long trains of passing freight or coal cars, as must necessarily be the case in other burial-places, now established or proposed, on the immediate line of new railroads, or through the grounds of which such railroads run. Just now the hills of Mount Moriah are covered with the most beautiful and varied foliage of the various groups of fine old forest trees, covering the margin of the stream which meanders through the grounds, and adds so great a charm to the attractions of the place. Churches of all the principal Protestant denominations have purchased sections of ground for the use of their congregations, and more than a hundred families have given the great Rural Cemetery the preference over all others. Clubs of one or any number may still be had upon application at the Lodge, at the entrance of the Cemetery, or at the Branch Office, Penn Mutual Insurance Building, No. 921 CHESTNUT STREET, up stairs, where any information will be given by GEORGE CONNELL, Secretary, 40 1/2 St.

FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF SAFES.

FIRE-PROOF SAFES. \$16,000 in Money, valuable Books and Papers perfectly preserved through the fire of July 20, 1868, at Dove's Depot, South Carolina, in one of MARVIN'S SAFES, owned by DE LORNE & DOYE.

50,000 feet of Lumber destroyed in our

Planting Mill in Brooklyn, May 15, 1868. All our Money, Papers, and Books, saved in excellent order in a MARVIN'S SAFE Alum and Dry Plaster. SHEARMAN BROS.

Both of the above were VERY SEVERE TESTS.

A PERFECT SAFE.

MARVIN'S CHROME IRON SPHERICAL BURGLAR SAFE

Cannot be Sledged! Cannot be Wedged! Cannot be Drilled! CALL AND SEE THEM, OR SEND FOR DESCRIPTIVE CIRCULAR.

MARVIN & CO., PRINCIPAL 721 CHESTNUT ST., WAREHOUSES, (Masonic Hall), Phila., 360 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, 105 BANK STREET, CLEVELAND, O., and for sale by our Agents in the principal cities throughout the United States.

MARQUETTE MARQUETTE

Another letter from the great fire at Marquette. HERKING'S SAFES preserve their contents where other safes fail! Marquette, Michigan, July 20, 1868. Messrs Herring & Co. GENTLEMEN—On the 14th inst. the entire business portion of our store was destroyed by fire. Our safe, which was one of your Manufacture, was singularly preserved, and proved itself adequate to the service for which it was designed. The safe, when taken out from its appearance, the contents covering being buried through in many places, and in view of the fact that the safe was not damaged, and was not wetted or destroyed, it was a great surprise to us to find the contents legible and in good condition. Several orders for new safes have already been placed, and of the confidence of this community in your safes. Respectfully yours, W. L. HANSON & SMITH.

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B. J. WILLIAMS & SONS, No. 16 NORTH SIXTH STREET, LARGEST MANUFACTURERS, AND SELL LOW PRICES.

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YOUNG'S PURE MALT WHISKY. YOUNG'S PURE MALT WHISKY. YOUNG'S PURE MALT WHISKY. There is no question relative to the merits of the celebrated Y. P. M. It is the most quality whisky manufactured from the best grain, brewed by Philadelphia distillers, and is sold at the low rate of 40 per gallon, or \$1.25 per quart, at the salerooms, No. 700 PASSYUNK ROAD, PHILADELPHIA.

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